

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE BOARD  
OF THE VILLAGE OF MARCELLUS HELD ON  
JANUARY 25, 2015 AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

**PRESENT:** John P. Curtin, Mayor See List  
Sara N. Tallman, Trustee  
Jeff Brown, Attorney

**ABSENT:** Patrick W. Cox, Trustee

Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Curtin asked for a motion to open the regular board meeting at 7:05pm, after a public hearing was held on Local Law #1 of 2016, Vacant Buildings. Trustee Tallman made the motion, seconded by Mayor Curtin. Mayor Curtin called for a vote. Both board members voted aye and the motion carried.

**SEQR - LOCAL**

**LAW #1:** Trustee Tallman made a motion to approve a resolution determining that the adoption of Local Law #1 of 2016 would not result in any significant adverse impact on the environment, and required no further environmental review. The Village assumed the role of lead agency and a negative declaration was prepared with respect to the local law. The motion was seconded by Mayor Curtin. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on the SEAF. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. Both board members voted aye and the motion carried.

**LOCAL LAW**

**#1 OF 2016:** Trustee Tallman made a motion to approve Local Law #1 of 2016 to identify and register vacant residential and commercial buildings and structures, to determine payment of registration fees, to determine the responsibilities of owners of vacant buildings and structures and to speed up rehabilitation of vacant properties, contingent on a review by the Onondaga County Planning Board. The motion was seconded by Mayor Curtin. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on the law. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. Both board members voted aye and the motion carried.

**SET REGISTRATION**

**FEE/VACANT**

**BLDGS:** Mayor Curtin made a motion to update the Village Fee Schedule, including the fee for Vacant Buildings, whereby the owner or owners of vacant property in the Village shall be responsible to register and pay the non-refundable registration annual fee of \$500. Thereafter, the fee shall increase by \$500 each year, for each year that the property remains vacant, and shall be billed by the Village Clerk annually on March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The fee shall be charged to the owner(s) as long as the building remains vacant. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tallman. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on the registration fee. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. Both board members voted aye and the motion carried.

**CONSENT**

**AGENDA:** The Village Clerk submitted the minutes of the regular board meeting for the month of December 2015. The bills on Abstract Sheets #008 for General Fund in the amount of \$25,632.91, Sewer Fund in the amount of \$22,366.62, Capital Funds in the amount of \$3,673.02 and Trust & Agency in the amount of \$170.66, were audited. The bills totaled \$51,843.21. The Board received the Police Report for December 2015 from Police Chief Robert Wicks. The Board also received the Building Inspectors Report for the month of December 2015 from Building Inspector Bill Reagan. The Board acknowledged receipt of the minutes of the Town Board meetings for December 2015. The financial statements as submitted by Village Treasurer Nino Provvidenti for December 2015 were given to the Board for their review. Trustee Tallman made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Mayor Curtin. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on the consent agenda. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. Both board members voted aye and the motion carried.

**REVIEW EMPLOYEE**

**HANDBOOK:** Mayor Curtin made a motion to approve a review of the Village of Marcellus Employee Handbook by the Village Board. A copy of the handbook is on file in the Village Office for public inspection. The Handbook went into effect on February 1, 2013. The Board conducts a review of the handbook annually. The motion was seconded by Trustee Tallman. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on the Employee Handbook. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. Both board members voted aye and the motion carried.

## **TIME WARNER FRANCHISE**

**AGREEMENT:** Trustee Tallman made a motion to again table the Time Warner Cable Franchise Agreement until the Village Attorney has been able to negotiate successfully, the terms of the agreement, with Time Warner Cable. The motion was seconded by Mayor Curtin. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on tabling the agreement again. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. Both board members voted aye and the motion carried.

## **PERMA PROGRAM**

**AGREEMENT:** Trustee Tallman mentioned that the Village had signed a contract agreement with PERMA in 1997 when it originally joined PERMA. The Village has not been required to sign another agreement since then. However, a consequence of PERMA's audit by the Workers Compensation Board last year required that a revised program agreement be signed by all members and the Village was required to sign a new agreement last year. According to a PERMA representative, it appears as if the WCB will be making PERMA revise the agreement again this year, but the agreement is still with the lawyers. Until PERMA has something finalized, the agreement signed in 2014 is completely valid. Once finalized, PERMA will forward a revised contract to be signed. Trustee Tallman made a motion to table the agreement until the agreement has been finalized. The motion was seconded by Mayor Curtin. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on tabling the agreement with PERMA. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. Both board members voted aye and the motion carried.

## **BUDGET**

### **MODIFICATIONS:**

Trustee Tallman made a motion to approve budget modifications requested by the Village Treasurer transferring revenues and appropriations in the General and Sewer Funds. The motion was seconded by Mayor Curtin. Mayor Curtin asked if there was any discussion on the budget modifications. Hearing none, Mayor Curtin called for a vote. Both board members voted aye and the motion carried.

## **ANNOUNCE VILLAGE**

### **MEETINGS:**

Trustee Tallman announced that the Village Clerk had printed copies of future meeting dates of the Village for February 2016 for the residents. She asked residents to please note that the Village Offices would be closed on Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup> for the Presidents' Day Holiday and that the second meeting of the Olde Home Days Committee, 2016, will take place on Thursday, February 4, 2016 in the Village Board Room.

## **Updates by the Mayor:**

Mayor Curtin provided updates on the following subjects:

- a. Police Department Appointment – Following the recommendation of Chief Wicks and subsequent interview with members of the Village Board, the Board appointed Peter Heise, a retired police officer from the Syracuse City Police Department as a Marcellus Village Police Officer, effective January 5, 2016.
- b. Message of regret, congratulations and thanks – Sgt. Robert Pitman of the Marcellus Police Department was recently appointed Police Chief of the Village of Homer and although the Board was sorry to have him leave the Department, they also congratulated him on the outstanding promotion. Sgt. Pitman did an exemplary job for the Village, taking the lead in pursuing a number of investigatory cases and solving them. His expertise will be sorely missed, although it is understood that Officer Heise has a great deal of experience in detective work. The Board is fortunate in being able to hire an exceptional replacement for Sgt. Pitman.
- c. Text a tip – Chief Wicks announced that Onondaga County has a new way to reach local police with a crime tip – without revealing who you are. A person could be witnessing a violent crime, a suspicious person, or other crimes that police should know about. There are several ways to text a tip. A person can text TIP411, or can download the County's TIP411 mobile app on iPhone or Android, or can find the Onondaga County Crime Tips Facebook page (it is not necessary to log into Facebook to submit a tip). All police agencies countrywide can now be reached at any time with a TIP411 text. It is very important that citizens type the code for the appropriate police department in their text. For example, the code for Marcellus Police is TIPMAR. The TIP411 line offers a way for those who are afraid to get involved to provide information to police, and the local police agency will do its job by investigating tips. Chief Wicks urged residents to take advantage of the unique opportunity.
- d. Prescription / Drug Drop-Off Box – Chief Wicks announced that a prescription/drug drop-off box, similar to a mailbox, is located in the lobby of the Village Hall and is available for use by residents who would like to dispose of prescription or other drugs anonymously. The County Health Department will stop in monthly to pick up and properly dispose of the items.
- e. F.O.G. (Fats, Oils, Grease) – in the wastewater will continue to be on the WPCP's agenda in the months ahead. The Board continues to provide a flyer that emphasizes the need to keep Fats, Oils and Grease out of the sanitary sewer system. The

Wastewater Department previously sent a letter to all businesses in the Village making them aware of the responsibilities that they have in dealing with fats, oils and grease.

- f. No Parking – The Board continues to alert residents that there is no parking on any of the Village streets, from 2 a.m. to 7 a.m., from November 1<sup>st</sup> to April 1<sup>st</sup> so that the highway crew can plow snow.
- g. Snow Plowing – The Board continues to alert independent snowplow operators that it is illegal to plow or shovel snow or ice during snow removal operations upon a village sidewalk or other public way. While most of the independent snow plow operators in the Village comply as much as possible with the law, there are some who need to be reminded that if a driveway is being plowed, that snow MUST NOT be plowed into the street. NOR can the snow be plowed out of a driveway, across the street and into the village right-of-way across from the plowed driveway.
- h. Waste Water Treatment Plant – The Board was pleased to receive notification in late December of a decision by the DEC to modify the compliance schedule in the Village's Waste Water Treatment Plant SPEDES permit, extending that permit by an additional year. This will provide the Village with additional time to seek grant funding for a major upgrade to the Treatment plant, totaling approximately \$5.5 million, to treat the removal of phosphorus from the plant's effluent. The Board is grateful especially to the Village Attorney, Jeff Brown, for his efforts in this regard. The Village also intends to seek additional help from local legislators, as well as travel to Albany, to plead the Village's case with the State DEC Commissioner.
- i. Planning Board – the Planning Board and Village Board toured the construction work being performed at 3-7 North Street. Hopefully the apartments and the diner will be opened in late March or early April.
- j. Creek Walk Project – continues to move ahead. The Board discussed the project with Village engineers and with all Rights of Way acquired and all environmental concerns addressed, the bids for the project can be advertised in early February. The Board will have bids in plenty of time for start of construction in the spring.
- k. Olde Home Days – June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> – the first meeting was held on January 8, 2016, and the next meeting will be held on February 4, 2016 in the Village Board Room at 7 p.m.

After concluding with his updates, Mayor Curtin asked if there were any comments from the Board. There were none.

**Items from the Floor:**

Mayor Curtin asked if there were any items from the floor. Ellen Leahy of the Skaneateles Press asked Mayor Curtin to provide her with a list of properties that are impacted by the new Vacant Property Local Law. Mayor Curtin let her know that he would provide her with the information she was looking for. After hearing no further comments from the public, Mayor Curtin asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Tallman made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mayor Curtin. Mayor Curtin called for a vote. Both board members voted aye and the motion carried. Mayor Curtin thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

The Regular Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

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Dawn M. O'Hara, Village Clerk